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20th anniversary celebrations of the fall of the Berlin Wall, at the Brandenburg Gate

## 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

On 9th November thousands of people gathered in Berlin to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Many people believe the world changed when the Wall came down on 9th November 1989. Some historians say this date marked the end of the Cold War – which had lasted for more than 40 years – the beginning of the collapse of the Soviet Union and end of communism in Europe.

When the Second World War in Europe (1939–1945) ended, Germany was in ruins. The leaders of the allies – the USA, the UK, France and Russia – agreed to divide the country among them. Although Berlin, the capital of Germany at that time, was in the Russian area it too was split among the four different countries.

But the Russians and the three other allied countries soon began to mistrust one another. Russia and the USA became enemies. All the eastern European countries occupied by Russia during the war became part of the Russian-led Soviet Union. The UK was allied to the USA, so it too became an enemy of Russia. This was the beginning of what became known as the Cold War.



Berlin Wall in front of the Brandenburg Gate

The area of Germany occupied by the USA, the UK and France was renamed the Federal Republic of Germany, or West Germany. It included their areas of Berlin, which became known as West Berlin. The Russian area of Germany was named the German Democratic Republic, or East Germany, which included East Berlin.

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Many people living in the Soviet Union-controlled parts of Eastern Europe wanted to go to the 'West'. Between 1945 and 1950 up to 15 million people moved from East to West. To stop this, Russia built a high wire fence dividing the 'communist east' from the 'democratic west'. The fence became known as the 'Iron Curtain'. It completely encircled West Berlin.

In 1961 the fence running through the middle of Berlin was replaced with a high concrete wall with watchtowers. The Berlin Wall, as it became known, was 165 kilometres (102 miles) in total.



Crossing the border between East and West Germany was restricted. Only those with special permits could get through. East German border guards were ordered to shoot anyone trying to cross. The Berlin Wall became a symbol of the divide between the Soviet Union and Western Europe and the USA.

In the 1980s, several protests began in Soviet Union countries. In Poland, Lech Wałęsa led strikes by workers at a large shipbuilding company. In 1989 Hungary's leaders said they would no longer stop people from crossing the border into Austria. Thousands of people living in East Germany then travelled to Hungary so they could move to the West.

Frequent demonstrations were held in East Germany. Mikhail Gorbachev, the Russian president at the

time, told the East German leaders Russia could no longer support them.

Soon afterwards, on the evening of 9th November 1989, thousands of East Germans marched towards the Wall. They began to climb over it. The border guards did not try to stop them. Within hours people from both sides of the Wall brought tools and began knocking it down.

After the Wall fell many Eastern European countries that had been controlled by the Soviet Union became independent. Within 12 months most had elected their own democratic governments. The following year the two Germanys, East and West, were reunited. In 1991 Russia elected its own president. Mr Gorbachev stepped down and the Cold War finally came to an end.

Many European leaders attended the celebrations for the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Mr Wałęsa and Mr Gorbachev also took part. Helmut Kohl, the German leader, or chancellor, when the Wall came down, was too ill to attend.

Angela Merkel, the current German chancellor, led the celebrations. They included music concerts and speeches. The main event was held at the Brandenburg Gate in the centre of Berlin. Twenty years ago the Gate was inside East Berlin and the Wall was built just in front of it.

Chancellor Merkel is from the former East Germany. In 1989 she was living in East Berlin and worked as a chemist in a laboratory. After hearing about the opening of the border she decided to walk across to West Berlin. She says a family of strangers invited her in for tea.

One thousand giant polystyrene dominoes were placed along the line where the Wall once was. They were pushed over to symbolise the collapse of communism in Europe. ■

## HUNGER REPORT

A new United Nations (UN) report says a lack of nutritious food is a major reason for children dying in many parts of the world.



Nutrition is a word that describes the useful qualities of our food that help us to grow and stay healthy. Our bodies use substances from our food such as protein and vitamins for everything they need to do. The different things our bodies require to keep healthy come from various types of foods. So it is important that humans, especially younger people, eat a range of different foods to give them all the nutrition they need. If someone is not getting enough good food, he or she is undernourished.

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is part of the UN. It is an organisation that helps to protect mothers and children. Its recent report studied nutrition in mothers and in children under five years old. It says not getting the right kinds of nutritious foods is one reason for a third of all deaths in children under five years old.

The report says there are different reasons for people being undernourished. One is that over the last two years food has become more expensive in many countries. This makes it harder for people to buy healthy foods. Often healthier foods are more expensive than those that have less nutritional value.

Another problem that worries UNICEF is that many women who are pregnant do not get the right amount of food. It is especially important that

pregnant women are not undernourished because their bodies have to support a baby growing inside them. If a pregnant woman is undernourished, her baby is likely to be small and not grow properly when it is born. Children that are undernourished, or whose mothers are undernourished, also have more difficulty in fighting illnesses and disease.

UNICEF runs programmes in many different countries. It tries to make sure children get all the nutrition they need. The organisation estimates it currently provides Vitamin A to 80% of the world's children who are undernourished. Vitamin A is known to help fight diseases because it improves the immune system. ■

## DEATH OF A MOUNTAIN CLIMBER

The body of a man was discovered on a mountain called Langtang Lirung, in Nepal, on 14th November. Officials later confirmed the body was that of Tomaz Humar, a mountain climber from Slovenia. Mr Humar was considered by many people to be one of the best mountain climbers in the world.

Mr Humar lived in Slovenia with his wife and two children. During his career he climbed over 1,500 mountains and won many mountaineering awards.

Some expeditions to climb high mountains, especially in the Himalayas, involve many people. Mountain climbing can require large amounts of equipment. For high climbs, a series of 'camps' are set up at different points on the mountain. Climbers breathe from oxygen tanks. This is because the air high in the mountains contains much less oxygen than it does at sea level.

Using these camps, climbers gradually reach the top.

Mr Humar climbed in a different way. He preferred to climb 'solo' – or on his own – and without any oxygen. This way of climbing is called the Alpine style, or 'fast and light'.



Tomaz Humar

Mr Humar became famous after his successful solo climb of another mountain in Nepal, called Dhaulagiri, in 1999. This mountain is the seventh-highest in the world. Mr Humar decided to climb it from the south side. Most people believed this would be impossible as it is an almost vertical face of ice and rock. Some said the feat was similar to climbing eight Empire State Buildings one on top of the other with less than half the normal amount of oxygen the body needs. The Empire State Building, in New York, in the USA, is 381 metres (1,250 feet) high.

In 2005 Mr Humar attempted a solo climb of Nanga Parbat, in Pakistan. This is the world's ninth-highest mountain. An avalanche and melting snow trapped Mr Humar high on the side of the mountain. He made a cave in the snow and called for help. Six days later a Pakistani army helicopter rescued him.

On 9th November, while climbing down Langtang Lirung, Mr Humar had an accident. He spoke with colleagues waiting for him at the bottom of the mountain, via a satellite phone. He said he had fallen and injured his leg, back and ribs.

Rescuers went looking for him but it was several days before his body was found.

Mr Humar's family has decided his body will be cremated. His ashes will then be scattered at the base of the last mountain he climbed. ■

## KOALA WARNING

A new report says Australia's koalas could become extinct within 30 years if more is not done to protect the places in which they live.

Koalas are marsupials – mammals that carry their young in a pouch. They only live in the wild in parts of eastern and southern Australia. Koalas are tree-climbing animals that have thick, grey-brown fur. They grow to a weight of between six kilograms (13.2 pounds) and 15 kilograms (33 pounds).

Koalas eat the leaves of eucalyptus trees. These trees mainly grow

## NewsCast

**HIP-HOP PRIME MINISTER** — Vladimir Putin is the prime minister of Russia. Recently he appeared on a music television show to give awards to hip-hop and rap artists. He made a speech to the young people taking part in the music competition. Mr Putin told the young hip-hop and rap artists that the best way to succeed in their work was to keep a healthy lifestyle. One of them said Mr Putin was an 'idol' and the audience chanted the word 'respect'. A person working for the prime minister said the reaction of the audience and the rap and hip-hop artists shows the prime minister is very popular among young Russian people.



in Australia. Scientists think koalas have evolved to be able to digest these types of leaves because other animals do not eat them. Eucalyptus leaves do not contain much protein, so koalas live a very low-energy life. They sleep or stay still for about 18 hours of every day. Some of the substances in eucalyptus leaves are poisonous to other animals. Yet koalas have evolved so the poison in the leaves does not affect them.



Koalas

The Australian Koala Foundation (AKF) is an organisation that works to protect koalas. It says the main threat to koalas is the destruction of their habitats, or places where they live. The AKF claims many forests of eucalyptus trees have been destroyed as land has been cleared for farming or building houses.

The AKF is now working to create the Koala Habitat Atlas. This is a series of maps that show where all the known koala habitats are. The AKF wants people who are planning buildings and developments to check the atlas to make sure they will not be damaging known koala habitats.

The AKF also wants the Australian government to declare the koala an endangered species and pass laws to protect it. Government officials say they will look at the evidence carefully before they make a decision.

Some scientists say koala populations are not easy to count accurately, so total numbers are difficult

to work out. The AKF believes there are now between 43,000 and 80,000 koalas living in the wild. ■

## AMERICAN PRESIDENT VISITS ASIA

Between 13th and 19th November Barack Obama made his first visit to Asia since he became president of the USA, in January. The American president visited Japan, Singapore, China and South Korea.

In Japan he held talks with Yukio Hatoyama, who was elected prime minister of Japan in September. Mr Obama also met Emperor Akihito. When Mr Obama bowed to the emperor, some Americans criticised his action. They said the American leader should not bow to other countries' leaders because it made him look weak.

The USA has several military bases in Japan. One of the largest is on the island of Okinawa. Many Japanese people who live on Okinawa want the base moved to another place on the island, where there are fewer people. Some held demonstrations about the base during the president's visit.



President Hu and President Obama inspect a guard of honour in Beijing, capital of China

In Singapore President Obama attended the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting. This organisation has 21 members, including the USA. Each member country has a coastline on

the Pacific Ocean. These are known as Pacific Rim countries. APEC members are estimated to have about 40% of the world's population. They are also responsible for 54% of the total world economy.

In China President Obama visited Shanghai and the capital city, Beijing. The president gave a speech to an audience of Chinese students. Afterwards they were allowed to ask him some questions.

Mr Obama and Hu Jin-tao, the president of China, talked about the trade **imbalance** between the two countries. Many goods made in China are exported to the USA. But few goods made in the USA are imported by China.

Currently the USA has to borrow large amounts of money to pay for things and services it needs. It does this by selling bonds, which are like IOUs. The Chinese government buys most of these bonds. Some people say this really means the USA is using China's money to buy goods from China. So trade between the two countries is not equal. Experts say the only way to solve the problem is for people in China to buy more American-made goods.

President Hu and President Obama also talked about Taiwan, Tibet and climate change. China and the USA are the world's two biggest producers of greenhouse gasses. During his stay in China the American president also visited the Forbidden City – a former royal palace in Beijing – and the Great Wall of China.

President Obama then travelled to Seoul, the capital of South Korea. There he held talks with the South Korean president, Lee Myung-bak. On 19th November he left Seoul to travel back to the USA. ■

## WERE DINOSAURS WARM-BLOODED?

by Dr Carol Ballard

One question scientists have been trying to answer for many years is whether dinosaurs were warm-blooded or cold-blooded. On 11th November, a team of scientists from the USA and the UK published research that suggests many dinosaurs were warm-blooded.

Mammals and birds are warm-blooded – known as endothermic. Fish, amphibians and reptiles are ectothermic, or cold-blooded.

Warm-blooded animals – such as humans – can control their body temperature. They are able to keep it at a steady level whether the outside temperature is hot, warm or cold. Some food eaten by warm-blooded animals is used to produce heat energy. Most have some form of **insulation** such as feathers, fur or layers of fat to stop them losing their body heat.

Cold-blooded animals cannot control their body temperature. This means it changes with the temperature around them. They have little insulation, so heat can be easily lost or **absorbed**. It is not unusual to see cold-blooded animals, such as lizards, lying in the sun to warm up. Others will need to hide in the shade or lie in cool water to cool down.

Being warm-blooded has several advantages. Warm-blooded animals are able to survive in a wide range of temperatures. Most cold-blooded animals need to avoid temperature extremes. Warm-blooded animals can be active in all temperatures. Cold-blooded animals become very slow when their surroundings get too hot or too cold.

However, one disadvantage of being warm-blooded is that it takes a lot of energy to keep a steady body temperature. This means warm-blooded animals need to eat a lot of food to create extra body heat. So warm-blooded animals must have a good food supply at all times.

The team of scientists used several different methods to find out if dinosaurs were warm or cold-blooded. Warm-blooded animals can produce and use more energy than cold-blooded ones. So the scientists began by thinking about the energy needed to walk and run. They wanted

to discover how much energy a dinosaur would need to do this. If they knew the answer, they would be able to calculate if a cold-blooded body could supply the necessary amount of energy. If it couldn't, this would mean dinosaurs were warm- and not cold-blooded.

The scientists knew the amount of energy modern day animals need to run and walk is closely linked to the length of their legs. So the scientists estimated how much energy was needed to walk or run by measuring the distance between an animal's hip and the ground.

It's also possible to estimate hip height from the length of leg bones. So the scientists measured fossilised dinosaur leg bones. They then calculated how much energy a dinosaur would have used to move around.

Bones cannot move by themselves. They have to be pulled into new positions by muscles. The more muscle an animal uses, the more energy it needs. So the scientists also needed to discover how much leg muscle dinosaurs needed to use to move.

To do this they worked out how much force was needed to move dinosaur leg bones. The scientists measured models of 13 different types of dinosaur. From these measurements they calculated how much muscle would be needed for each dinosaur to walk and run.

The scientists then compared their bone and muscle measurements with the amount of energy used by modern day animals when they walk and run. The results suggested the dinosaurs would have needed much more energy to walk and run than a cold-blooded body could supply. This meant the 13 types of dinosaur they studied were probably warm-blooded.

The scientists' research is important for the understanding of animal evolution. Their results suggest most dinosaurs were warm-blooded. It has also showed that this type of body system evolved much earlier than was previously thought. The scientists now think one reason the dinosaurs became so successful was because they were endothermic.



## CIVIL WAR IN YEMEN

Since 2004 there has been an **insurgency**, or civil war, in Yemen. At the beginning of November, troops and aircraft from Saudi Arabia became involved in the war.

Abdullah Saleh is the president of Yemen. He claims the militants in a province called Saada, close to the border with Saudi Arabia, want to take over Yemen. The militants, or **rebels**, are also known as Houthis. They are named after one of their former religious leaders.

President Saleh says the Houthis rebels want the country to be run under their version of Shi'ah religious law. Shi'ah and Sunni are two different types of Islam. In the past the differences between the two have led to conflicts.

The majority of the population in Iraq and Iran are Shi'ah or Shia Muslims. Shia Muslims are also the largest religious group in Lebanon. In most other Muslim countries, including Saudi Arabia, the majority are Sunni Muslims. President Saleh is a Shia Muslim.



Many people think the civil war in Yemen is about religion, but others disagree. Houthi leaders accuse the Yemeni government of letting Saudi Arabia control it. The Houthis dislike Saudi Arabia because it is willing to work with the USA.

Saudi Arabia claimed the Houthis rebels had crossed the border from

Yemen and occupied one of its towns. It sent planes and paratroopers to attack them. Many civilians living in the area have been forced to leave their homes. After a week of fighting, Saudi Arabia declared the Houthis had been pushed back across the border into Yemen. There, the Houthis are also being attacked by Yemeni army troops.

Saudi Arabia has said its troops will not cross the border into Yemen. But it warned the rebels to withdraw to areas several kilometres within the Yemeni side of the border.

Saudi Arabia also sent some navy ships to the part of the Red Sea closest to Saada province. It said it had done this to stop boats delivering weapons to the Houthis rebels. Saudi Arabia suspects Iran has been sending weapons to help the Houthis, as their religion is similar to Shia Islam.

After Saudi Arabia sent fighter planes to attack the Houthis, a senior minister in the Iranian government gave a warning. He said Saudi Arabia should not take sides in the fighting in Yemen.

Many people have accused Iran of supporting militant Shia groups in the Middle East in the past. Some now worry the insurgency in Yemen could lead to problems between the much larger countries of Iran and Saudi Arabia. ■

## PRIME MINISTER'S APOLOGY

On 16th November Kevin Rudd, the prime minister of Australia, made a speech about the 'Forgotten Australians'.

The 'Forgotten Australians' are people who were made to go to Australia from the UK when they were young children. Between the 1880s and 1950s around 150,000

## NewsCAST

**HALFWAY THERE** — A woman in South Korea has passed part of her driving test after taking it more than 900 times. She has been re-taking the written test since early in 2005. To pass the test, people have to get 60% or more of the questions right. The 68-year old woman delivers food to people's houses and wants to be able to drive to make this easier. Now she has finally passed the written test, she will have to practise her driving. The second and final part of the driving test is done with an instructor while driving on the road.

children were sent to Australia, New Zealand and Canada from the UK. They were sent under a system called Home Children, or the Child Emigration Scheme.

Australia, New Zealand and Canada all wanted to increase their populations during this time. So they agreed to accept children from the UK. The children were those who lived in orphanages or care homes. Some did not have parents. Others were the children of families that were unable to look after them.

The children were told they were being sent to a better life in a different country. Some were told their parents had died when this was not always true. Those being sent to Australia were sometimes told they were going to a country where the sun shone most of the time and they could ride a horse to school.

The parents of the children in care homes were not always told their children were being sent away. Some children were as young as three, but most were older.

For those going to Australia the journey took five or six weeks



by boat. After arriving, some were taken in by families and looked after well. But many others were sent to children's homes and orphanages. There they were very badly treated. Many were given no schooling and were not even taught how to read and write. Instead they were forced to work for long hours.

Mr Rudd made his speech at Parliament House, in Canberra, the capital of Australia. The prime minister made a formal apology to the thousands of people who had been sent to Australia when they were young children. It is estimated that there are around 7,000 'Forgotten Australians' still alive. Most are now in their old age.



Kevin Rudd, prime minister of Australia

During his speech Prime Minister Rudd said nothing like this must happen again. He said it is important that everyone knows the truth about what had happened in the past. Many 'Forgotten Australians' travelled to Canberra to listen to his speech. Mr Rudd said after his official apology on behalf of the Australian government, he hoped they would now be called the 'Remembered Australians'.

Last year Mr Rudd made a similar apology. This was to the Aboriginal children who had been forcibly taken away from their parents during the same period. They were also very badly treated. These people are known as the 'Stolen Generation'.

Government officials in the UK say Gordon Brown, the prime minister of the country, plans to make

a similar apology to the 'Forgotten Australians' at the beginning of next year. ■

## GREAT WALL DAMAGED

A mining company has been accused of causing damage to one of the world's most famous structures – the Great Wall of China.

The Great Wall of China was built by thousands of workers, during the reigns of several different Chinese emperors from 200 BC to the 16th century. It was meant to protect the northern part of China from attack. In some places the Wall is built with bricks, while in others it is made from earth and large stones.

The Great Wall is no longer complete. Some parts have fallen down. Others have been partly destroyed where people have taken the stones for other buildings or roads. Most of the remaining parts of the Wall were built between the 1300s and the 1600s. In 2009 some new sections of the Wall were discovered that had been covered over by sand.

It's thought that the parts of the Wall now still standing add up to between 6,000 and 8,800 kilometres (3,700 and 5,500 miles) in length. Historians believe all the parts of the Wall ever built would have a total length many times greater than this.

The United Nations (UN) has made the Great Wall of China a World Heritage Site. Money is provided to protect and look after these sites. This is because the UN believes they have special importance in human history. China also has its own special laws to protect the Great Wall.

The gold mining company has been accused of destroying 100

metres (330 feet) of the Wall. The damaged section is one of the oldest parts of the Wall. It is in Inner Mongolia.



Great Wall of China

The mining company is suspected of making two large holes in the Wall while using heavy mining machinery nearby. The Chinese government says it found out about the damage in September. The company had been ordered to stop mining. But it seems that the mining company ignored these orders.

The government has now sent inspectors to look at the damage to the Wall. If the owners of the mining company are found guilty of causing the damage they could be put on trial and sent to prison. ■

## NEW DARK-SKY PARK

A large forestry park in Scotland, in the UK, has been designated a Dark-Sky Park. This award was made by the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) on 15th November.

The IDA is based in the USA. The organisation was set up to make people aware that dark night skies are important. The IDA wants to reduce light pollution and wasted energy.

Light pollution is the name given to the light 'haze' in the night sky produced by the thousands of electric lights in towns and cities. When travelling towards a town or city at night, you can often see this 'haze'

of light in the sky above it before you arrive. This glow is called light pollution.

Light pollution has several effects. One is that it hides all but the very brightest stars in the night sky. Some scientist also think it has an effect on some animals such as bats. It's possible, they say, that bats' breeding and feeding habits can be affected by light pollution.

Light pollution means many people who live close to towns and cities are not able to see the 'real' night sky. The IDA's designated Dark-Sky Parks are places where there is very little light pollution.

The forestry park in the UK covers an area of 777 square kilometres (300 square miles). To get the award park officials had to make sure all light pollution in the park area was very low. Measurements were taken with special light meters. The IDA says a sky with no light pollution has a meter reading of 24. The reading at the forestry park, in the UK, was 23. Larger cities normally have a reading of around 15.



The Milky Way

On a cloudless night the Milky Way can be clearly seen from the forestry park. It appears as a whitish trail that stretches across the night sky. The white colour comes from millions of different stars. The Earth and our own solar system are part of the Milky Way galaxy. Some experts say it is even possible to see Andromeda – the

nearest galaxy to the Milky Way – from the forestry park.

Although the sky above the forestry park is very dark at night it is not far from two large cities – Edinburgh and Glasgow. So many people only have a short distance to travel to visit the park at night. This was another reason the park was given the Dark-Sky award. Park officials believe now it has received the award many more people will come to visit.

There are now two Dark-Sky Parks in Europe. The other is in Hungary. The rest of the Parks are in the USA and Canada. ■



## EXPENSIVE BEER BOTTLE

A bottle of German beer was sold for £11,000 (€12,400) at an auction on 14th November, in the UK. The bottle is one of the few objects that survived the Hindenburg disaster in 1937.

The Hindenburg was a huge airship. It was one of the largest flying machines ever built. The airship was named after Paul von Hindenburg, a Field Marshal who was president of Germany between 1924 and 1935.

The airship was built and operated by a German company called Zeppelin. It had a metal framework and an outer covering that was filled with hydrogen. As hydrogen gas is lighter than air, the airship could rise. Several propeller engines could then 'push' it in the direction of travel.

In the 1930s airships were used as a form of travel. A structure called a gondola was suspended underneath. The passengers and crew travelled in the gondola. Some gondolas were very luxurious with dining rooms and separate bedrooms.

The Zeppelin Company operated many successful long-distance passenger flights using its airships. The Hindenburg made trips from Germany to Brazil and the USA. Travelling across the Atlantic Ocean took about five days.

In 1937, the Hindenburg made a journey from Frankfurt, in Germany, to New Jersey, in the USA. It was carrying 97 passengers and crew members. After arriving in the USA the airship was to come to a stop by being attached to a tall tower. After this it would be lowered to the ground.

Hydrogen gas is flammable. While being attached to the tower the Hindenburg suddenly caught fire. Nobody is sure how the fire started. Some think it was a spark from static electricity while others believe it was friction between two ropes. Friction causes heat, and a spark from the ropes may have set the Hindenburg on fire.

The airship exploded in a ball of flames and the gondola fell to the ground. Thirty-six people were killed, including one on the ground. The airship was totally destroyed. Firefighters were called. They put out the remaining flames and cleared up the airfield. One firefighter found six bottles of beer and a silver-plated jug. These were burned by the flames, but had not been broken.

The firefighter knew he would not be allowed to take the items away, so he buried them in the ground. Later, he returned to the same spot and dug them up. He gave



five of the bottles to friends. Four of these are now lost but one is owned by the German company that made the beer. The firefighter gave his bottle to his niece in 1966. The beer company says the liquid in the bottle would now be undrinkable.



*The Hindenburg explodes into flames*

After the Hindenburg disaster, travelling by airship went out of fashion. Within a few years passenger planes had taken the place of airships.

The price paid for the 'Hindenburg' bottle of beer is a record. Previously the highest price paid for a full bottle of beer was £240 (€270). ■

## RUSSIAN PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

Dmitry Medvedev is the president of Russia. On 12th November he made an important speech known as 'the state of the nation'. This speech is made every year by the Russian president. It was the second time Mr Medvedev has made the speech. Some of the things he talked about surprised many people.

Valdimir Putin was elected president of Russia in 2000, and again in 2004. The rules by which Russia is governed say a president can only be elected for two successive terms of four years. Therefore Mr Putin could not be re-elected in 2008 and had to step down.

But the rules in Russia's constitution don't make it clear if someone can be president for two terms, step down, and then be elected again after a break.

Mr Putin was a very popular president. When he stood down in 2008 he became Russia's prime minister. Some people think Mr Putin really still runs the country, and wanted Mr Medvedev to be president so he could tell him what to do. Many suspect, after President Medvedev's first four-year term ends in 2012, Mr Putin plans to be re-elected as president again.

Mr Medvedev made his speech in part of the Kremlin. The Kremlin is a large fortified building in the centre of Moscow, the country's capital city. It was originally used by the Russian royal family but is now the official home and offices of the Russian president. The speech was also broadcast live on television.

Russia is the biggest country in the world. It has large supplies of oil and gas and valuable deposits

of many other minerals. When Mr Putin was president the price of oil and gas was very high. Russia made a lot of money by selling these to other countries. But now, the price of oil and gas is much lower.



*Dmitry Medvedev, president of Russia*

During his speech President Medvedev said the Russian economy depends too much on things such as oil and gas, and that this must change. He said Russia must develop new companies based on computer technology, nuclear energy, medicine, telecommunications and space flight. He also said Russian schools should be modernised, and people should be given help to set up their own businesses.

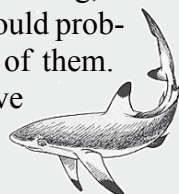
From 1917 to 1991 Russia was a communist country. The government was in control of everything including factories and businesses. President Medvedev said the government still controls about 40% of the Russian economy. This, he insisted, had to change. Government-run businesses, the president said, should be sold or shut down, and corrupt officials that work for them punished.

Many people thought the president was criticising Mr Putin. This is because while he was president, Mr Putin set up several of the government-owned organisations that President Medvedev complained about.

Russia is a big country with 11 different time zones. This, President

## NEWSCAST

**SHARK BITE BABIES** — Visitors to an aquarium in New Zealand got a surprise when they saw a shark attack and bite another shark. Four baby sharks came out of the bite wound. When a vet went to treat the bitten shark, he found four more baby sharks inside her. The aquarium staff did not know the shark was pregnant. They said the bite had been lucky for the baby sharks. If they had been born when nobody was looking, other sharks in the tank would probably have eaten all of them. The baby sharks have now been moved to a safe nursery tank.



Medvedev said, makes new economic development difficult, because it's harder for companies in different time zones to work with each other. He thinks the number of time zones should be reduced.

Some Russian people said the changes President Medvedev wanted will not be possible until Russia becomes a more democratic country. Currently, they say, it is still really ruled by one party. President Medvedev is supported by United Russia, Prime Minister Putin's political party. Opposition parties only have a few seats in the country's parliament. President Medvedev said any political changes in the country will only be allowed to happen very slowly. ■

## HOW GOOD IS YOUR MEMORY?

The World Memory Championships have taken place every year since 1991. They are held in different cities. This year's Championships took place between 12th and 14th November, in London, the capital of the UK.

Over 70 competitors took part. They came from 17 different countries, including Norway, South Africa, Malaysia, China and the USA.

Competitors work hard to train and improve their memories. They use different ways to remember things. Most make up imaginary stories that include the things they have to remember. The competitors then retell the stories to themselves as a way of recalling things.

Over three days of the championship, the competitors took part in several different memory tests. In one, people had to remember the

order of as many playing cards as they could in one hour. The winner of this event memorised the correct order of 1,144 cards.



Gold medal winner Ben Pridmore

Another test was for remembering numbers. The competitors listened to a recording of someone saying numbers out loud. The recording was of 100 digits spoken at a speed of one number per second. The competitor then had to recall all the numbers in the right order, without writing anything down. In the second and third rounds of this memory test the number of digits increased to 200 and then 300 numbers.

Other tests include remembering binary numbers, random words, names and faces, and the order of different geometrical shapes.

Competitors win points for their performance in ten different tests. Then their points are all added together. The person with the most points wins the Gold Medal in the overall competition. The winner also has his or her trip to the next year's World Championships paid for. The 2010 Championships will be held in Guangzhou, in China.

This year's gold medal winner was Ben Pridmore, from the UK. Mr Pridmore has won the competition twice before, in 2004 and 2008.

So far most of the Gold medal winners have come from either

Germany or the UK. However, more people from China are now entering the Championship. This year, with 16 people, China had the most competitors. Germany was second with 13.

School students can also compete in memory championships. Some schools hold their own competitions. The winners of these can then progress to national events. For example, this year 15-year-old Eva Ball won the UK Schools Memory Competition. She was then invited to compete in the UK Memory Championships, against adults. Eva did not expect to do very well. But in one test, she even beat Ben Pridmore who was the World Champion. ■

## MYSTERY BIRD NOISE SOLVED

Scientists from the USA say they have found the answer to a noisy mystery in the bird world.

The club-winged manakin is a small bird that lives in mountainous areas of Colombia and Ecuador, in South America. The bird makes an unusually loud 'tinging' sound similar to the ringing of a small bell or a violin. People have known for some time that this noise does not come out of the bird's beak but is made by the feathers of its wings. Now, scientists have discovered exactly how the bird makes the sound.

The manakin beats its wings together very quickly at over 100 times a second. This is twice as fast as a hummingbird. Yet the beating of the wings is not the cause of the bell-like noise.

The scientists noticed a few of the bird's wing feathers have some unusual features. One feather has ridges on its shaft, and the feather next to it has a curved tip. When the bird beats its wings, the curved tip



of one feather rubs across the ridges on the other.

The frequency of the sound the birds make has already been recorded at 1,500 Hertz, or 1,500 cycles per second. Experiments show the feathers with the ridges and the curved tip vibrated at 1,500 Hertz. This proved it is these parts of the feathers making the noise.



*Club-winged manakin*

The scientists discovered other feathers close to the ones with the

unusual features also vibrated at this frequency. Although these feathers do not make the noise, they help to make it much louder.

Experts think the bird makes the noise to attract a mate. They also believe the noise is made to warn other birds to stay away.

The club-winged manakin is the only bird known to make such a loud **distinctive** noise in this way. It is more common in some insects, such as crickets. Male crickets have small teeth, like those of a comb, along the edges of their wings. The noise they make comes from the insect rubbing the 'teeth' on one wing along those on the other wing.

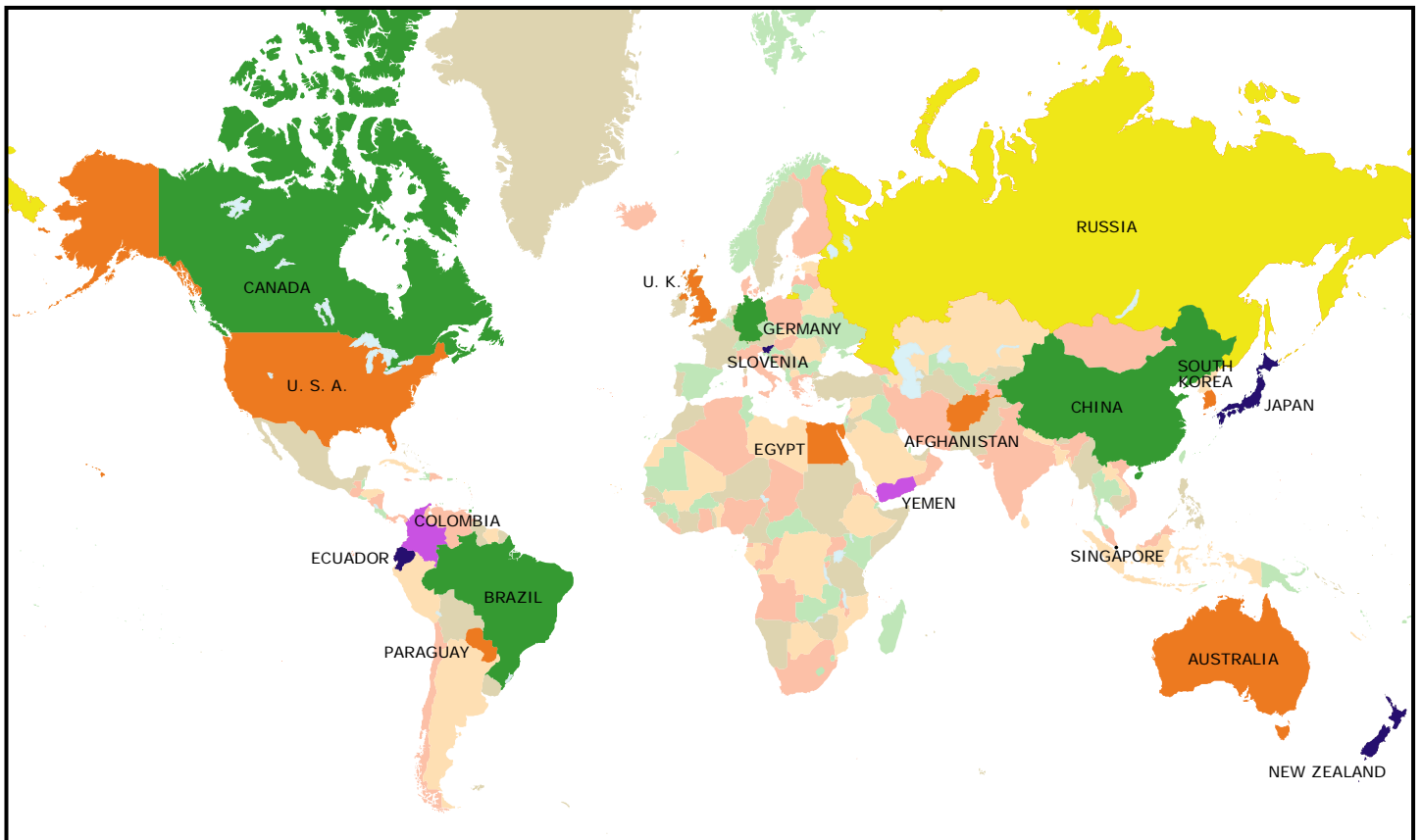
The scientists who solved the club-winged manakin mystery say other birds are known to make clapping or 'whooshing' noises with their feathers. This new discovery may give a clue to how they do this. ■

## USA MILITARY BASE SHOOTING

On 5th November, a major in the American army entered a building on a military base in the USA and shot and killed 13 people. He also wounded 30 others.

Fort Hood is in the state of Texas, in the USA. It is one of the largest military bases in the world. A military base is where people in the armed forces live and work. At the Fort Hood base there is an area called the Soldier Readiness Center. American soldiers going to or returning from Iraq and Afghanistan go there for medical checks and to complete a series of forms.

Major Nidal Malik Hasan entered the Soldier Readiness Center. He then began firing a pistol at the soldiers in the building. None of them was carrying a weapon. Two armed police officers arrived. They opened



This map shows countries to which news stories refer in this issue. Visit [www.newsademic.com](http://www.newsademic.com) for more detailed world maps.



fire on Major Hasan. One police officer was injured and Major Hasan seriously wounded. He survived and is now under guard in a hospital.

Afterwards officials said Major Hasan had been charged with killing 12 soldiers and one civilian, and had wounded 30 other people.

Major Hasan was an army psychologist to members of the armed forces. His job was to help soldiers who suffered from mental illnesses after they returned from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Until recently, he had been working at an army base near Washington DC, the capital of the USA. Major Hasan has been in the army since 1988. He is 39 years old and was born in America after his parents emigrated there from the West Bank. This is now part of the Palestinian Authority (PA).

Major Hasan had been transferred to Fort Hood because he was due to go to Afghanistan at the end of November. No-one knows why he did what he did, but some friends and family members think he was unhappy that he was being sent to Afghanistan. They also said he thought the USA should not be fighting wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

On 10th November a memorial service was held at Fort Hood for those who had died. Thousands of people attended, including Barack Obama, the president of the USA.

Mr Obama has now ordered an investigation into the reasons behind Major Hasan's action. He wants to see if Major Hasan's beliefs about the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the people with whom Major

Hasan was in contact, could have had anything to do with the shooting. He also wants to know if Major Hasan showed any signs that he was ill, or had been behaving strangely, in the weeks leading up to the attack.



Major Hasan

Once he has recovered from his wounds Major Hasan will be put on trial before a military court. Military courts in the USA are allowed to sentence people to death. Many expect this is what will happen to Major Hasan. If so, he would be the first person to be sentenced to death by an American military court for over 45 years. ■

## SESAME STREET AT 40

On 10th November, a special birthday party was held in a street in New York, in the USA. The children's television series Sesame Street celebrated its 40th anniversary. Sesame Street is America's longest-running children's television programme.

In 1969 television sets were becoming less expensive, and watching television programmes was popular. Teachers and television companies wanted to find out how television programmes could be used to teach children. In order to come up with a new 'teaching' programme they studied how young children learn.

The result was Sesame Street – a television show that taught basic things such as the alphabet and simple maths. This was done in short repeated segments, which kept the attention of very young children. Sesame Street uses puppet characters, real people, animation and

music to make different sections of the programme. The people and puppets – some of which are very big – talk, sing and dance with each other.

Different countries now have their own versions of Sesame Street. It is estimated about 120 million people watch Sesame Street programmes around the world. The non-American versions have settings that are better-suited to the countries in which they're made. Some of the puppets – known as Muppets – are also different. For example, Germany's show, called Sesamstrasse, has a bear called Samson. His role is similar to that of Big Bird in the American show.

Sesame Street now tries to teach other things and not just the alphabet and simple maths. This includes people's feelings and things that happen in life. When one of the older actors on the programme died, Sesame Street used it to explain death. This was done in a way that young children could understand.



Sesame streets Muppets

In 2002, the South African version of Sesame Street, called Takalani Sesame, introduced a Muppet character who is HIV-positive. The makers of the programme said this was important because many children in South Africa live with HIV/AIDS. The United Nations (UN) has made the character, Kami, a UNICEF ambassador for children.

This organisation provides help to mothers and young children in poorer countries.

An artist called Jim Henson created Sesame Street's Muppets. The characters were made to have different personalities that young children could understand. For example, Oscar the Grouch acts like a small child who is grumpy. Bert and Ernie have worries that are the same as those of young children – such as being alone or being scared of the dark. And Big Bird always asks a lot of questions.

Sesame Street's music and songs became so popular that the puppets released some albums. Among the best-known songs are *I Love Trash*, sung by Oscar the Grouch, and *Rubber Duckie*, sung by Ernie. Ernie was played by Jim Henson.

The guests on the 40th birthday programme included Michelle Obama, the First Lady of the USA. ■

## NewsCAST

**TEXT MESSAGE MISTAKE** — A Canadian politician sent a text message to some friends while attending a dinner. The message said 'Thatcher has died'. The news quickly spread among the people in the room. One person called officials at the Canadian government and told them he had heard that Margaret Thatcher – the former prime minister of the UK, who is now over 80 years old – had died. Yet when the officials contacted the British government to confirm the news, they were told she was still alive. The Canadian politician said his text message was meant to tell his friends about the death of his 16-year-old cat, named Thatcher.

## CHINA AND AFRICA

The Forum on China–Africa Co-operation (FOCAC) held a meeting between 8th and 9th November. The meeting, or summit, took place at Sharm el-Sheikh, a city on the Red Sea, in Egypt.

FOCAC meetings are held among Chinese leaders and the leaders of all African countries. Officials from 48 African countries were there. The last forum was held in Beijing, the capital of China, in 2006.

During the last 30 years China has become very powerful. Many consumer goods bought in Europe, the USA and Asian countries are now made in China. Some people describe China as the 'new factory of the world'. Many international companies have factories in the country, which are often jointly run with Chinese companies.

China now makes many things and exports them to other countries. Yet it has to import a lot of raw materials to keep its factories working. These include oil, copper, diamonds, gold and cobalt. All of these can be found and mined in African countries.

China is a communist state. Its government controls most of the Chinese companies that deal in the raw materials the country needs. The Chinese government has made agreements with many African leaders for Chinese organisations to help local companies extract these minerals. Most are then exported to China.

In return, the Chinese government provides loans to the African

countries. It also helps to build schools and houses, and gives advice on increasing local farm production. Chinese companies are now working to build large infrastructure projects in some African countries.

These include new roads, ports, railways and oil pipelines.

Wen Jia-bao, the premier, or prime minister, of China, spoke at the FOCAC meeting. Mr Wen said his government would loan African countries £6 billion (€6.7 billion). This money will be used for infrastructure projects. This amount is twice as much as was promised at the last FOCAC meeting in 2006.

Mr Wen also said China would help build 100 new energy projects in Africa. He said these will be designed to make clean energy that produces little or no carbon dioxide.

Many people believe China is helping African countries by doing these things. Yet others disagree. They say China has been willing to make business arrangements with some corrupt African leaders who treat their people badly.

For example, Chinese companies help to extract oil in Sudan. Nearly all of the oil Sudan produces is exported to China. Omar al-Bashir is the president of the country. He has been accused of genocide and crimes against humanity in an area of Sudan called Darfur.

Critics therefore say China should not be supporting President al-Bashir. But China insists it should not interfere with how African leaders run their own countries. ■



## ICE FLOE RESCUE

A teenage boy in Canada has been rescued after spending over 24 hours stranded on an ice **floe**.

The 17-year-old and his uncle live in a small town on an island in Nunavut, in the northern part of Canada. This part of Canada is very cold for most of the year because it is close to the Arctic Circle.

On 7th November, the teenager was out hunting with his uncle on a snowmobile. The machine broke down about 20 kilometres (12.4 miles) away from where they lived. While the two were walking back towards the town, they became separated. They had been walking on sea ice. A piece of the ice on which the teenager was walking suddenly broke off. The ice floe then began to drift away from where his uncle was standing.

People out searching for the man and the teenager found the uncle the next morning. He told them what had happened. Rescue workers then flew planes over the area looking for the piece of ice the teenager was on. They spotted him, and also saw three polar bears on the same piece of ice. The largest bear was dead.



Polar bear

The searchers dropped a box of food for the teenager, but then lost sight of him because it was getting dark. Later it was discovered the large polar bear had come very close to the teenager. He had shot

it with his rifle to defend himself. A town official said the teenager would only have shot the bear as a last resort when he did not have any other choice. The two smaller bears stayed away from the teenager so he left them alone.

The following day the rescuers flew out again to look for him. By then the ice floe on which the teenager was stranded had drifted about 35 kilometres (21.7 miles) from where he had become separated from his uncle. Rescue workers parachuted from a small aircraft onto the ice. They reached the boy and gave him medical treatment.

The teenager and his uncle were both taken to hospital. The 17-year-old had **hypothermia** and some frostbite. This was because the temperature on the ice floe had dropped during the night to as low as  $-25^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $-13^{\circ}\text{F}$ ). ■

## FAMOUS ARCHAEOLOGIST'S HOUSE RE-OPENS AS A MUSEUM

A new museum has opened near the Valley of the Kings, in Egypt, after being restored and renovated. The museum was once the house of the British archaeologist Howard Carter (1874 – 1939). He is best known for discovering the tomb of the Egyptian pharaoh, or king, Tutankhamun.

Howard Carter made his discovery in November 1922. He had been paid to do archaeological exploration in the Valley of the Kings by a wealthy British man – Lord Carnarvon. The valley is on one of the banks of the River Nile. It was known to be a burial place for many pharaohs and important families from around the 16th century BC.

Historians say a man employed by Mr Carter first noticed the tomb.

The man's job was to carry water for Mr Carter and the other archaeologists working in the Valley of the Kings.

King Tutankhamun, say historians, was not actually a very important pharaoh. Not much is known about his life. It's believed he was pharaoh for about nine or ten years from 1334 BC. He was a child when he became king, and died at the age of 17 or 18.



Howard Carter's house

What is so important about Mr Carter's discovery is that King Tutankhamun's tomb is one of the best-preserved ever to have been found. It contained thousands of artefacts. These include a gold mask – the pharaoh's burial mask – that is now one of the most-recognised **icons** of Egyptian history.

Some of the tools Mr Carter used when he discovered the tomb are on display at the new museum. He lived in the house for some time after the discovery of King Tutankhamun's tomb, carefully recording everything he had found.

The inside of the mud-brick house has been restored to look as it did when Mr Carter lived there. Egyptian historians say it was important to restore the explorer's house and use it to display some of the history of Egyptology. They say thousands of tourists visit the Valley of the Kings every month, and ask to see the house.



## NewsCAST

**BOMB EXPERT FOUND** — An explosives expert taking part in the war in Afghanistan was declared 'Missing In Action' by the Australian army in 2008. She went missing when her colleagues were attacked. But now, 14 months after disappearing, Sabi – a dog trained to sniff for explosives – has been found. An American soldier discovered the dog. He knew the Australian army had lost one of its 'sniffer' dogs that are trained to detect explosives. The American army agreed to fly the dog to where her handlers are based in Afghanistan. Sabi will now be put in quarantine before being flown back to Australia.

Work is also due to begin on the tomb itself. Experts will begin special cleaning and restoration on the inside of the tomb, including some of the murals painted on the walls. The restoration work is expected to take about five years. ■

## BLACKOUT IN BRAZIL

On 10th November many parts of Brazil and all of Paraguay suffered a blackout. All the electric power failed. The blackout began at around ten o'clock in the evening. In Paraguay it only lasted for 15 minutes. Yet in some places in Brazil, it went on for around four hours.

The loss of power caused chaos. All the lights went out in Brazil's two largest cities, Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo. The only lights to see by outdoors were from car headlights driving along the roads.

All the traffic lights failed and some people became trapped in lifts.

Underground trains came to a stop. Thousands of people travelling in them had to walk along the tracks to the nearest station. Some medical centres were forced to quickly transfer some of their patients to other hospitals, because the patients were having treatment provided by machines run on electricity. Some hospitals have their own generators that can be used to provide electricity in emergencies.

The telephone systems also failed. All the mobile phone networks then became jammed because so many people were trying to use their mobile phones at the same time.



Many people were worried about crime. Some areas of Brazil's larger cities have a bad reputation for street crime such as robberies and muggings. Some people thought criminal gangs would try to take advantage of the blackout. So a lot of people walking in the streets moved in large groups as a form of protection.

Police chiefs arranged for extra policemen to be on the streets. Bus drivers who had finished work returned to the bus stations. Additional buses then went out to help people who had been travelling by train to get home.

It is estimated about 60 million people were affected by the loss of electrical power.

At first officials thought there had been a problem with the Itaipu

dam. This is one of the largest hydroelectric plants in the world. The dam is on the River Paraná, which forms part of the border between Paraguay and Brazil. It is part of a hydroelectric plant that produces about 20% of Brazil's electricity and 90% of that used in Paraguay.

Workers at the dam insisted there were no problems. They said the hydroelectric plant had been producing electricity but it had to be shut down because electrical power lines were not working. Later it was discovered that winds, heavy rain and lightning had damaged several electrical lines that transmit electricity from the plant into Brazil. Once these had been repaired the blackout ended.

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, the president of Brazil, said the government was not to blame for the blackout. President Lula said a lot of money was being spent to maintain the power lines. Yet he ordered the minister who is responsible for energy in Brazil to carry out an investigation, and to make sure similar blackouts do not happen again in the future. ■

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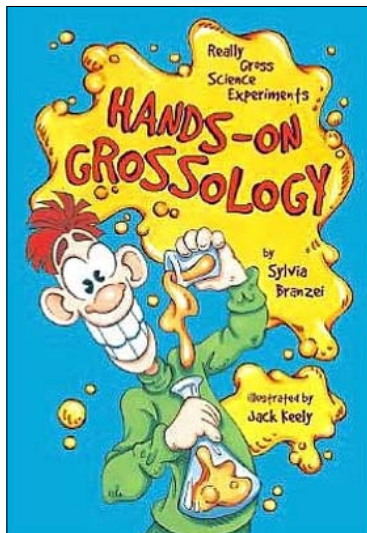
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# B O O K R E V I E W

## HAVE YOU READ ...?



says it contains gross science experiments, and I was expecting to read about frog dissection. I wasn't quite prepared for what I actually found inside.

This very vivid, colourfully-illustrated book gives recipes for some nasty concoctions, such as fake blisters, blood, poo, snot, and non-edible cookie dough. For instance, the recipe for fake body wounds is pretty simple: petroleum jelly, red food colouring, powdered cocoa, tissue, and a bowl to mix it all in. There are also directions for how to pull a trick off or use these fake wounds in a game.

But it's not all just gross-out gags. For instance, beneath the image of a goofy-looking skull above a magnifying glass, you'll find some interesting real science, its history, and even prehistory. The book also has a gross glossary where you can learn some new vocabulary that you may have heard before, but didn't know what it meant. For instance, here's where you'll find the definition of 'halitosis'!

One of the most interesting things – for those not easily offended – is how you can make your urine both perfumed *and* colourful. You must consume certain amounts of cooked asparagus and beetroot, and follow other directions explained clearly in the book. The science in this section shows how our kidneys filter about 170 litres (180 quarts) of blood in one day. The author explains how the bladder holds – and releases – the useless waste that has been flushed out by the kidneys. And the useless portions of your beets and asparagus make for some very odorous...waste. If the experiment doesn't work there's even a nice bit of troubleshooting

Did you ever want to know why you burp...and how you can do it better?! Or even talk while belching? Do you want to make your own ear-wax detector without buying expensive medical supplies? Would you like to grow your own bacteria? Well, this is certainly the first time I have ever found the answers to these questions in writing...

I've never read a book like this. The book cover

information that follows, explaining why your experiment may have turned out the way it did.

I did not try the above experiment, but I *did* try the Burp-o-Matic. It was great. Not only did I learn about how gas that entered my stomach caused belching, but I improved my volume by simply swallowing air and plugging my nose. Ah, the wonders of science!

This book does not really read like your typical science book. It's true that the author explains the scientific side to each experiment – and the many unusual results that may occur – in careful detail. But the colourful, comic-style artwork by Jack Keely reminds you this book is for fun, making me think of a '[mutated](#)' science book. Also, you don't need a science laboratory to perform these gross-outs.

Although I strongly suggest you *don't* do these experiments in class, or in front of your parents, the book contains 'An Important Note to Teachers'. This last part could be important to *you*, because it may convince your parents and/or teachers about why this book is a good thing! Aside from the gross-out stuff, the book does teach you about science, following directions for recipes (of the non-edible variety), some history, and is written with careful attention to detail.

For those of us who just want something wild and unusual and interesting, this is the ticket. If you want to read – and experiment – some more, you could look to the original *Grossology* book, to which this is a sequel. I would recommend this for any future scientists or special makeup effects artists. I dared myself to do these experiments, and now I dare you to get this book and try them!

*Hands-On Grossology* by Sylvia Branzei, illustrated by Jack Keely. 2003. Price Stern Sloan.

Reviewed by **Craig Purdon**

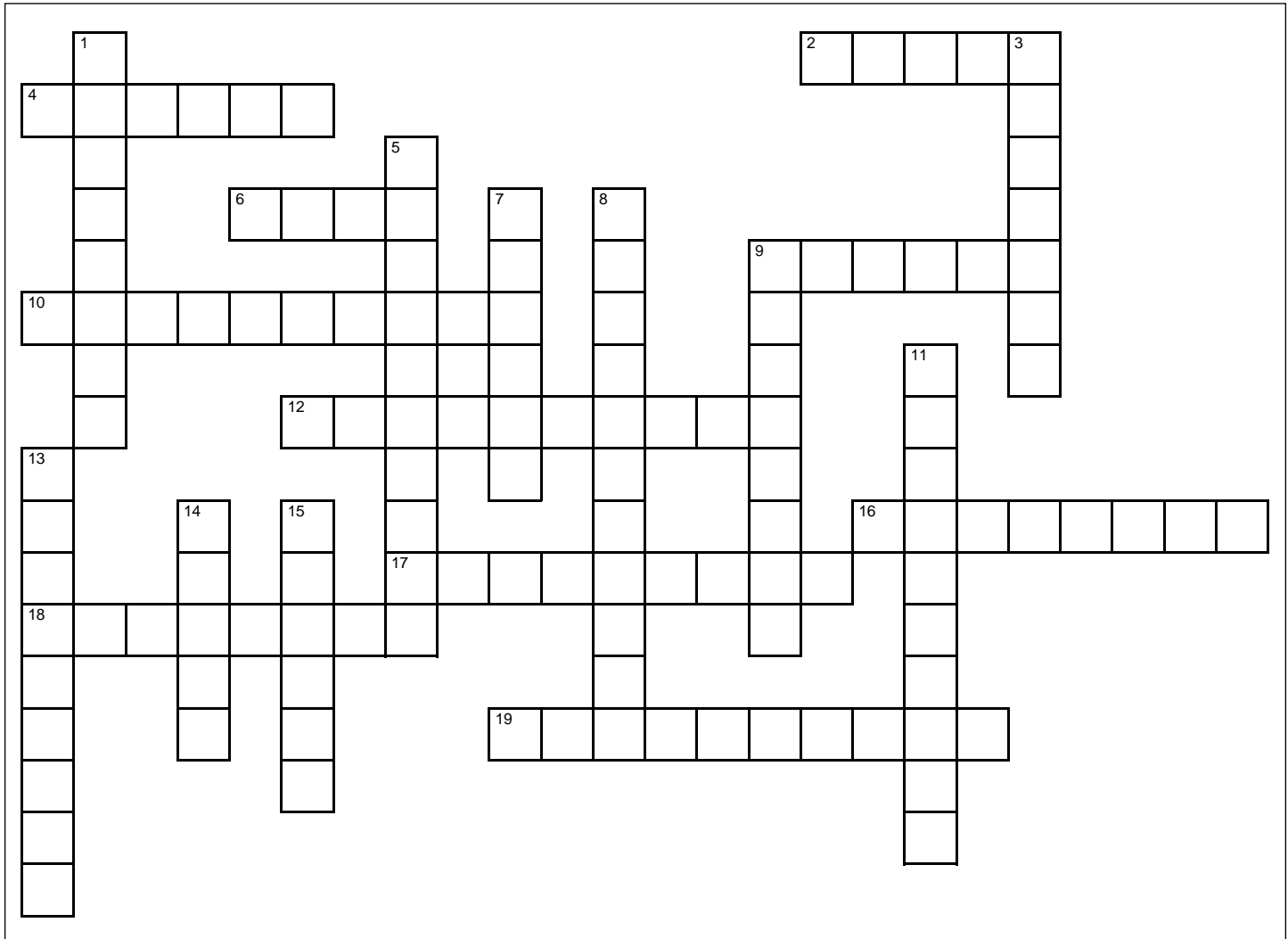
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# GLOSSARY

## PRIZE COMPETITION

**INSTRUCTIONS:** ① Complete the crossword. The answers are highlighted in orange in the news stories. There are 25 words highlighted and you need 20 of them to complete the crossword. ② Once you have solved the crossword find the 20 words in the word search on the next page ➡



### Across

- 2 Noun** A meeting at which people exchange their views and opinions  
**4 Noun (Plural)** Periods of time during which a king or queen rules a country  
**6 Noun** A large area of ice floating on the sea  
**9 Noun** A hard silvery-white metallic chemical element  
**10 Noun** Something, usually a covering, used to stop heat from escaping  
**12 Noun** Machines that produce something, usually electricity  
**16 Noun (Plural)** Attacks on people to steal their money  
**17 Verb** Surrounded  
**18 Verb** When a substance is taken in by something else  
**19 Noun** A period of isolation for animals from abroad that may have been exposed to a contagious disease

### Down

- 1 Noun (Plural)** Parts into which something is divided  
**3 Verb** Changed, usually in reference to an organism's genes or chromosomes  
**5 Verb** Given an official name, title or purpose  
**7 Adjective** Describes a system used to code data, using only the digits 1 and 0  
**8 Noun** A serious and sometimes fatal medical condition when a person gets very cold  
**9 Noun** A person who buys goods or services for his or her own use  
**11 Noun** When a group of people tries to take control of its country by force  
**13 Noun** When two things that should be equal are not  
**14 Noun (Plural)** Famous people or things that people look up to because they represent a set of beliefs or a way of life  
**15 Noun (Plural)** People who are opposed to the political system in their country and try to change it by using violence



# GLOSSARY

## PRIZE COMPETITION *CONTINUED*

A I M R E H T O P Y H P A S E S E D  
 B N G E I M B A L A N C E R N A I E  
 S R C R C A F R E M U S N O C T O S  
 O D P Y O B F E D U D J I N I K K I  
 R R B N N V Z X T X M P O G R L P G  
 B P Z A S O D K S I E Z Q D C U M N  
 E O O E N I T N A R A U Q Q L Y R A  
 D W S G N I G G U M E L K H E X S T  
 G Y E F H Z M E Q N P I D G D Z R E  
 F U G D D H Z K O M N S G R X T O D  
 O U M Y C E H I I U O S C N J J T S  
 L P E I S E T K E R R S Q Z S A A Y  
 Q J N L G A T A S O A L T I G H R L  
 Z I T J L Z Z Y T F E E F G X A E C  
 Z L S U A D Q V B U Y B Z L N F N I  
 F I S M J U J H M T M E D I O M E V  
 N N J R Q Y J Q B F I R B V T E G T  
 I N S U R G E N C Y O E T L A B O C

**INSTRUCTIONS:** ③ Find the crossword answers in the word search. Words can go vertically, horizontally, diagonally and back to front. ④ After solving the word search write down the unused letters, starting at the top left and reading from left to right, top to bottom to find the solution. **Hint** - The numbers of letters and words in the solution are shown under the word search.

### COMPETITION PRIZES

#### Glossary Prize Winner

Paperback copy of 'Hands-On Grossology' by Sylvia Branzei

#### Glossary Prize Runner up

10 free issues of Newsademic

#### Sudoku Prize Winner

10 free issues of Newsademic

### ISSUE NUMBER 105 PRIZE WINNERS

#### Glossary Competition

Janice Bell, Cyprus  
 Roger Humphries, UK

#### Sudoku Competition

Fang Yu, Hong Kong

Competition solution (two words with a total of 17 letters)



Go to [www.newsademic.com](http://www.newsademic.com) log in and submit your solution by clicking on the "Enter competition" link within the Subscribers tools menu.

Deadline for receiving your entry is 10 pm on 3rd December 2009 (GMT/UTC).

### COMPETITION RULES:

1 Competition prizes are awarded on a per issue and not a per edition basis. 2 Only one entry per person per competition will be accepted. 3 You must obtain permission from your parent/guardian before entering if you are under 16 years of age. 4 Deadline for receiving entries is at 10 pm (GMT) on 3rd December 2009. 5 The winners will be randomly selected from all correct entries received. 6 The winners will be contacted by E-mail. Newsademic's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. 7 Prizes must be taken as offered. There are no cash alternatives. 8 Newsademic does not accept any responsibility for lost or late entries due to the internet. Proof of submission is not proof of receipt. 9 Prizes won by those who have used a school subscription to enter will be awarded to the individual entrant and not to the school. 10 Competitions are not open to employees or contractors of Newsademic. 11 Newsademic reserves the right to cancel competitions at any stage, if in their opinion it is deemed necessary or if circumstances arise beyond their control. 12 These rules are governed by the laws of England and Wales. 13 When entering competitions entrants will be deemed to have accepted these rules and to agree to be bound by them.

## SUDOKU COMPETITION

**INSTRUCTIONS:** ① Fill the boxes on each horizontal row with a number between 1 and 9. ② Fill the boxes on each vertical row with a number between 1 and 9. ③ Make sure that each number between 1 and 9 also appears in each highlighted 3 x 3 square box. ④ After solving the Sudoku puzzle write down the numbers from the tinted vertical column from top to bottom in the boxes below.

Competition Solution

		2	7					
				3				7
	3	6	2					
		9		7				1
1	5				2	9		
		8	9	4				
	7			6			3	
						2		
			8		5			9